



State of the Boys

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A Great Start to Boys State 2022!

Nearly 180 delegates from all across Minnesota streamed into the halls of Saint John’s University to begin their life-changing week of learning, working, and making friends from Luverne to Grand Marais, Hallock to Caledonia. Follow along here each day for summaries and updates written by the delegates of the Boys State.

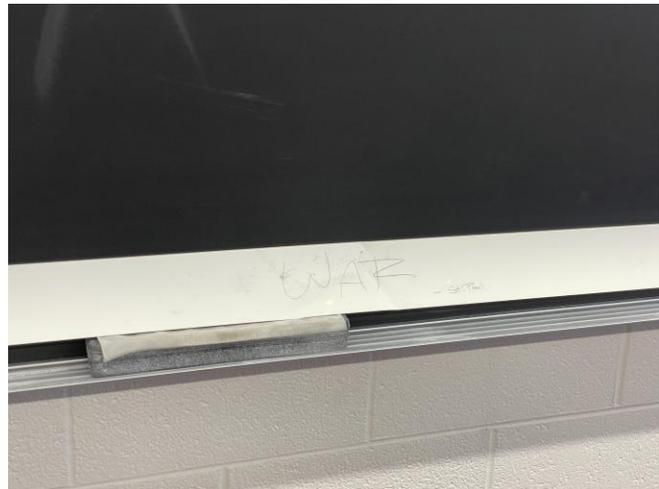
Quotes of Legion

Chase Hiber, Minneapolis

Boys State has started with a bang and as I and my fellow peers began to get settled in the beautiful campus of St. John’s University, we were treated to a wonderful assembly which gave further context not only to the American Legion, but to our trip here as well and what we can expect to gain. American Legion Commander Tom Ferland described the American Legion by its original purpose and goal “Americans strengthening America” and after spending a day here, it’s clear they’re achieving just that. The transitional president of St. John’s University Dr. John H. Mullen Jr. described the value of Boys State by saying it shows young men that they “can make a difference in their community, county, state, country or even world”. Finally, the Boys State 2021 Governor Devon Selmon said that each of us attending Boys State should take the opportunity to “allow change and become a better man”. I know I for one will hold the wise words of these men close as I continue this week and hopefully beyond.

“WAR” Court in Twin Cities

Caden Wittwer, St. Paul



On June 12th, 2022 at 9:45 p.m., a disheartened counselor from Minneapolis removed a sign that was slipped under his door that declared “WAR” on Minneapolis from “St. Paul.” The students who made the sign constructed it by ripping a blind from a window and writing on it with a marker. Vandalism is an inexcusable offense at Boys State. The incident provoked the head counselor of St. Paul to punish his citizens and then wonder: “Which one of his students committed the crime?” *Continued on Page#2*
The question made its rotations through the group, as the citizens of St. Paul debated who did it. Like the



counselor of St. Paul, many believed that the culprit sat beside themselves. However, some believed that this story was too simple; could the city of St. Paul have been set up?

On June 13th, a student came forward with video evidence of the offender. The video proved that the perpetrator was not a citizen of St. Paul, but rather, the student belonged to Winona. The current motive is unknown. The video evidence provides a strong lead regarding the identity of the malefactor, but the true identity is still under investigation. The property was cleaned and replaced with no loss to St. John's University.

The Rochester Journey Begins

George Peltier, Rochester

The first day was all about acclimating to life at Boys State. We bonded with our cities, learned parliamentary procedures, and had city meetings. I am part of the City of Rochester. Our city immediately bonded with one another. We made a group chat to announce our campaigns and communicate amongst ourselves. We have high involvement from a lot of people in our city. Monday, Day 2, will be our city elections and the delegates in Rochester have been campaigning all night and handing out signs to try to garner votes. Rochester individuals that were gunning for office spent most of their campaign time speaking with other Rochestians about why they are fit for their desired positions rather than making campaign posters. More on officer election results tomorrow.

There are already sworn rival cities. Rochester and Duluth dislike each other with a fiery passion. They are sister cities, which means that they are in the same county so they will be working together later in the week. Multiple "Rochester" chats have come about in assembly but there has never been a Duluth response. They have proven that their city morale is quite low relative to Rochester's. The sister cities also share brother counselors. Knute and Gunnar are brothers and are vying to win athletic competitions and quizzes throughout the week. Go Rochester!



Duluth Campaigning Off to a Bang!

Austin Clennon, Duluth

When people say that Boys State goes by fast, they certainly aren't kidding. Having arrived just yesterday, the delegates of Duluth are already hard at work building their campaigns for tonight's city elections. These candidates have been hustling around making some great first impressions and establishing connections with their peers. Though nobody knows for sure who will win these elections, I think it's safe to say that the great city of Duluth is in good hands.

Always Witnessing Splendor

Ryan Engstler, St. Cloud

Saint John's University dining room facilities provide a myriad of opportunities. Nutritional meals and time to unwind are brief, encouraging purposeful intentions in getting through meal time. Most of the Boys State members eat with fellow members of their assigned city (not the same as their city of origin). A plethora of protein, fruits, and grains are readily available. The campus soft serve machine is in high demand, even during breakfast! A noticeable buzz surrounding the dining room revolves around the city-wide elections. Elevated energy levels hope to encourage fellow constituents' support. Murmurs ebb and flow at the long tables and a hopeful sentiment rises as elections near.

First Boys State Elections

Isaac Wirth, Minneapolis

The City of Minneapolis, in the County of Huston, filed candidates for our next five city council members, our mayor, and city clerk, as well as our treasurer. At this point in the race, it looks as if it will be a close call between mayoral candidates Isaac Israel and Matthew Foley. While Chase Hiber lags behind, following his most recent campaign speech he may have swayed some voters his way. Israel is currently the temporary county clerk who has been working with all candidates to file them to formally run for office. The office of the mayor is the most sought after within the city offices. However, the city could not function without the other offices. The election will take place at 6:30 pm on Monday, June 13th, 2022.

Duluth Athletics: A New Dynasty?

Austin Clennon, Duluth

When you see the words "Boys State", a few things come to mind. Education, leadership, democracy. What may not come to mind is the highly competitive atmosphere surrounding the athletics program. The sports here at Boys State add a whole new level of friendly competition and rivalry within the camp. All six cities in the program are determined to bring home a trophy, but there may be an early favorite to win it all. Duluth's newly elected Athletic Director Will Spargo is promising the city not one, not two, but all three championships in 2022. With the assistance of team captains Noah Spessard (Volleyball), Jack Westman (Softball), and Andrew "AJ" McCleery (Basketball), Will is confident he can bring the first Triple Crown since 2016 to Duluth.



On the Campaign Trail



It's only Day 1, but political tensions are already high at Boys State! St. Cloud's young politicians are off to the races, competing for positions in the city's governing body. Most intense is the race for the Mayor; the chair of all city assemblies and the person with the most power in the city's government. But students aren't just competing for mayor. Almost 10 students—the most out of any group—are campaigning for one of five spots on the City Council, which coordinates and directs city activities with the Mayor.

To campaign, all students are creating advertisements and posters on both paper and



blackboards. A lot of these posters include clever catch-phrases like Ben Bugbee's "Putting progress before politics," Ted Burnes's "Enough said, vote for Ted," I'll fight for you

and my (Eric Chen's) "Vote for me today, and tomorrow." The aspiring politicians also made today, trying to use the power of rhetoric to sway the vote in their favor. The elections are occurring very shortly, and we will be sure to keep you updated!

Warm Welcomes and Encouraging Words

Vincent Martin, Winona

From the very start of the Boys State Journey, Winona has been making strong strides towards success. After taking some time to get to know one another, these Boys Staters are together quickly to learn from one another and their counselors.

During the evening assembly, we had the chance to hear from many experienced, high-ranking, and respected individuals. The advice that they gave will almost certainly prove to shape our experience and interactions. First, we heard from the dept commander of the Legion Dept of Minnesota. He presented a brief history of the American Legion, which promises to enhance our appreciation for the program next, Dr. Michael Hemesath, the President of Saint John's University spoke on the ethos of the Boys State program. Finally, we received an address from the current governor, elected at the last Boys State, Devon Selmon. He provided an interesting perspective on the program through the eyes of a graduate. Winona has diligently taken the wise words of these men to heart.

Farts and Rafts

Parker Carbonneau, Winona & Matthew Foley, Minneapolis

As Adam Logeman took the stage, one thing was going through my head; pink pajamas. While this may seem outlandish, a bit of an explanation might be necessary. Previously, on the first night of Boys State Adam Logeman, along with his brother Isaac, led us in singing a song about wearing pink pajamas, flannel nighties or, alternatively,

nothing at all. However, after listening to Logeman talk about expectations for about an hour, I can honestly rank his speech as the best I have ever listened to. *Continue on Pages 5*

The speech was funny, helpful, and perhaps most importantly, relatable. Logeman's personal philosophy when dealing with expectations is focus, adapt, resilience, and thankfulness, forming the anagram F.A.R.T. or R.A.F.T. depending on which way you look at it. All jokes aside though, this powerful speech touched the hearts of many audience members and is one part of this week I will not forget.

In our everyday lives, we often avoid thinking about how to manage our expectations. Adam Logeman spoke to the Boys Staters about the importance of managing expectations, incorporating humor and anecdotes into his 45-minute address. Logeman commenced his speech by laying out the four origins of our expectations: experience, results, external sources, and ourselves. As he paced the auditorium, Logeman spelled out the unhealthy responses often brought on by unrealistic expectations.

- **Shelter in Place:** we can't deal with the expectations placed upon us, so we pretend they don't exist, burying ourselves in hours of video games or long drives instead of confronting the challenge head-on. This limits us from progressing forward in our goals.
- **Imposter Syndrome:** we can't accept our successes, as we view them as undeserved. This invalidates the successes that we earned.
- **Dunning-Kruger Effect:** the opposite of imposter syndrome - we can't accept that we are wrong, so we place the blame on others instead. We tell ourselves we're going to be great either way. This halts our capability to learn and progress in life and education.
- **Envelopment:** we place our entire self-image on our success and expectations. Without these, we are nothing. This leads to unfulfillment and shame.

Logeman then shared his RAFT plan, an acronym for the ways to manage expectations and meet goals.

- **Resilience:** the choice to face your expectations one more time, every time.
- **Adaptability:** the ability to change how we view ourselves or the obstacles we face. Instead, we find a new way or a different path to follow.
- **Focus:** focus on the expectations you want to accomplish. You can always choose to focus on something.
- **Thankfulness:** if you look for things to be thankful for, you will find it - it is a mindset. Think actively about *how* you can be thankful, not when you will be.

Meet The Team

Chase Hiber

As we kick off the news for this season I believe it's important to give a basic understanding of those of us who have decided to contribute to this paper:

Parker Carbonneau

From Luverne MN

He joined our team because he's always enjoyed writing. He wants to get in as much as possible here at Boys State to live up his experience as much as possible.

He would like to thank the Luverne Legion Post 123 for bringing him here and allowing him to take in this once in a lifetime experience.

Isaac Wirth

From Kerkhoven MN

He joined our team because he wanted to be involved in a wide range of things here at Boys State. He's very interested in writing and controlling the narrative of the paper.

He would like to thank his family for supporting him and allowing him to go on this trip.

Matthew Foley

From Eagan

He joined our team because he is the editor of his school's newspaper and he loves to write. He also wished to benefit from the experience of working on a separate newspaper.

He'd like to thank the St. Louis Legion Post for sponsoring his trip. He would also like to thank Mr. Werle for showing this incredible experience to him, guiding and offering support along the whole way.

And more coming later this week



Its Time for Some Campaignin’

Aidan Wippich, Minneapolis

A day in the life of.... A one day political campaign:

Since our time here at Boys State is very short, we have to fast past a normal political campaign. So instead of fully planning out a multi-year strategy, we had to mad scramble to the paper and markers, making sure our campaigns stood out. What I personally ended up doing was find a mayoral candidate that I believe could win and assist him with winning, all in the hopes to get an appointed position. I can see why politicians gray so fast.



Flag Day...

"And let us never forget that in honoring our flag, we honor the American men and women who have courageously fought and died for it..."

-President Ronald Reagan

